

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of sending data from a first computing device to at least one of a plurality of second computing devices over a wireless digital packet-switched network, the method comprising:

initiating a first application on the first computing device including a wireless digital packet-switched modem, the first application accessing and retrieving legacy data from a remote system within a private network, via a protocol server;

initiating a second application on the first computing device, the second application providing an instant messaging service and enabling instant messaging data to be sent from the first computing device to an instant messaging server within the private network via the protocol server over the wireless digital packet-switched network;

generating data to be sent from the first computing device to the at least one of the plurality of second computing devices within the private network, wherein data is generatable from the first application as a request to the remote system and generatable from the second application as an instant message, both the data and the instant message being transmitted by way of the wireless digital packet-switched modem;

initiating a first communication through a communication layer by the first application using a first application program interface (API) call;

initiating a second communication through the communication layer by the second application using a second API call; and

transmitting the generated data from the first computing device to the protocol server for delivery of the request to the remote system from the protocol server and for delivery of the instant message from the protocol server to the instant messaging server, wherein the instant message is delivered to the instant messaging server for further delivery to the at least one of the plurality of second computing devices within the private network without transmitting the instant message through the protocol server.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first application can access a plurality of remote data systems.

3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the instant message is addressed to a user represented by a user identifier.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the user identifier comprises one of a group of allowed recipients, the method further comprising detecting at the instant messaging server whether the user identifier is of the group of allowed recipients, and delivering the message to the recipient only when the user identifier is of the allowed group.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising establishing an interactive connection between the first computing device and the second computing device.
7. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium containing instructions to be executed by a computing device for performing acts comprising:
 - initiating a first application on a first computing device including a wireless digital packet-switched modem, the first application for accessing and retrieving legacy data from a remote system within a private network via a protocol server;
 - initiating a second application on the first computing device, the second application providing an instant messaging service and enabling instant messaging data to be sent from the first computing device to an instant messaging server within the private network via the protocol server over a wireless digital packet-switched network;
 - generating data to be sent from the first computing device to the at least one of a plurality of second computing devices, wherein data is generatable from the first application as a request to the remote system and from the second application as an instant message and is transmitted by way of the wireless digital packet-switched modem;
 - initiating a request to a modem controller for access to the wireless digital packet-switched modem; and
 - transmitting the generated data from the first computing device to the protocol server for delivery of the request from the protocol server to the remote system and for delivery of the instant message from the protocol server to the instant messaging server, wherein the instant

message is delivered to the instant messaging server for delivery to the at least one of the plurality of second computing devices without transmitting the instant message through the protocol server.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of receiving data sent from a first computing device [[to at]] by a plurality of second computing devices over a wireless digital packet-switched network, the method comprising:

- at a protocol server, receiving data from an instant messaging application running on the first computing device over the wireless digital packet-switched network, while maintaining contact with a remote systems accessing application running on the first computing device via the wireless digital packet-switched network;

- forwarding the data from the instant messaging application to an instant messaging server via the protocol server;

- determining a plurality of intended recipients of the data at the instant messaging server;
- and

- forwarding the data from the instant messaging server directly to the intended recipients without transmitting the data through the protocol server.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising at the protocol server receiving a request for legacy data from the remote system accessing application via the wireless digital packet-switched network and forwarding the request to a remote system.

10. (Previously Presented) A system for sending data over a wireless digital packet-switched network from a first computing device to at least one of a plurality of second computing devices, the system comprising:

- a first computing device including a wireless digital packet-switched modem, the first computing device implementing a remote system accessing application that generates requests for legacy data and an instant message application that generates instant messages, the requests and instant messages being communicated via the wireless digital packet-switched modem;

- a wireless digital packet switched network;

a modem controller that controls access to the wireless digital packet-switched network;
and

a computer system comprising a plurality of second computing devices within a private network, the plurality of second computing devices comprising a protocol server, remote system containing legacy data, and an instant messaging server, wherein the protocol server receives the requests for legacy data and forwards them to the remote system and receives the instant messages and forwards them to the instant messaging server for delivery to at least one of the plurality of second computing devices, wherein further the instant messages are delivered to the at least one of the plurality of second computing devices without transmitting the instant messages through the protocol server.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting the generated data from the first computing device to the protocol server for delivery of the request to the legacy system and for delivery of the instant message to the instant messaging server comprises transmitting the generated data including the request to the legacy system and the instant message via an X.25 protocol.

12.(Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 7, wherein the act of transmitting the generated data from the first computing device to the protocol server for delivery of the request to the legacy system and for delivery of the instant message to the instant messaging server comprises transmitting the generated data including the request to the legacy system and the instant message via an X.25 protocol.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the wireless packet-switched modem communicates over the wireless packet-switched communication network via an X.25 protocol.